

John
GOOLE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health



1957

GOOLE:
GOOLE TIMES COMPANY, LIMITED
1958

GOOLE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman :

Councillor H. S. WOOD, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor C. W. HARTLEY.

Medical Officer of Health :

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Public Health Inspector :

J. ALLAN POTTS, A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
GOOLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Eleventh Annual Report on the health of the District and the work of the Health Department for the year 1957.

The mid-1957 estimated population, as calculated by the Registrar-General, was 9,150, a decrease of 10 on the 1956 figure. The excess of births over deaths was 62.

The Birth Rate was 15.1 per thousand population (Adjusted Birth Rate 14.8), which is below the W.R. Rural District Aggregate Rate of 17.9 and Rate for England and Wales of 16.1.

The Crude Death Rate of 8.3 (Adjusted Death Rate 9.0) was the same as last year's record low Rate for the District. The W.R. Rural Rate was 9.7 and that for England and Wales 11.5.

Of the 76 deaths, 28 (37.0%) occurred at the age of 75 years and over; of these, 9 were over 85 years and 2 over 90 years.

There were 4 Infant Deaths, giving a Rate of 29.0 per thousand live births. The W.R. Rural Rate was 28.0 and the Rate for England and Wales at 23.0 was a new low record.

Infectious disease notifications totalled 198. Of these 175 were measles, which was prevalent from January to June.

It is now possible to offer protective immunisation against six infective diseases. Parental response is fairly good, but should be better. Parents who deny their children these protective techniques against diphtheria, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, smallpox and tetanus expose them to the risk of unnecessary illness and possible death. Protective vaccination against tuberculosis, where necessary, is limited at present to children between the ages of 13 and 14 years, and the contacts of cases of the disease.

During the year combined antigen came into use for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, thus reducing the number of injections from five to three.

Triple antigen, including tetanus antigen, also became available. Tetanus (lock-jaw) is an uncommon but frequently fatal disease which can follow the infection of even the smallest wound of the skin. Prevention is the only certain cure.

Vaccine against poliomyelitis became available in increasing quantities during the year and the vaccination of 318 of the 835 registered children was completed.

Canadian and American Salk vaccine is available to supplement the inadequate, and in no way superior, supply of British vaccine.

The evidence of the direct relationship between heavy smoking and cancer of the lungs and bronchus remains as significant as described in my Annual Report for 1956, but the general public, not having the will-power to do anything about it, ignores the evidence. The middle-aged and elderly say it is too late in any case and the adolescents feel that time is on their side and a cure will have been discovered before they reach the cancer age !

Six males died from cancer of the lungs in 1957, and during the last eleven years 22 males and 3 females died.

Finally, I express my thanks to the Members and Officials of the Council for their support and assistance during the year and to the Voluntary Committees for their services at the Clinics.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON,

Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1958.

1957

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District	...	...	...	...	38,238	acres
Population (mid-1957)	...	...	...	...	...	9,150
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	...	2,904
Rateable Value (1/4/58)	...	...	...	...	...	£57,871
Estimated Product of Penny Rate (1/4/58)	...				£222	12/11

VITAL STATISTICS

	GOOLE R.D.	Aggregate West Riding R.D.s.	West Riding Admin. County	England & Wales Admin. County (provi- sional)
BIRTH RATE				
(per 1,000 population)	...	15.1	17.9	16.6
CRUDE DEATH RATES				
(per 1,000 population)				
All causes	...	8.3	9.7	11.7
Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	0	0.06	0.07
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	0	0.07	0.08
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	0	0.01	0.01
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Respiratory Tuberculosis)	...	0.55	1.12	1.37
Cancer	...	1.97	1.58	1.87
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	...	3.93	3.49	4.30
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	0.66	1.45	1.95
INFANT MORTALITY				
(Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	...	29.0	28.0	26.4
Stillbirths	...	14.3	24.8	23.9
MATERNAL MORTALITY				
(Deaths of mothers in child-birth per 1,000 total births)	0	0.72	0.51	0.47
COMPARABILITY FACTORS				
For Births	...	0.98	Adjusted Birth Rate	...
For Deaths	...	1.08	Adjusted Death Rate	...
BIRTHS				
			Male.	Female.
			Total.	
LIVE BIRTHS:				
Legitimate	...	70	62	132
Illegitimate	...	3	3	6
Total	...	73	65	138
STILLBIRTHS	...	2	0	2

**Birth and Death Rates for Six Years
and Mean Rates for Decennial Periods**

BIRTH RATE

(per 1,000 population)

1957	...	...	...	15·1	1901-1910	...	...	27·4
1956	...	...	...	14·1	1911-1920	...	...	23·6
1955	...	...	...	13·1	1921-1930	...	...	22·1
1954	...	...	...	14·6	1931-1940	...	...	16·2
1953	...	...	...	17·6	1941-1950	...	...	18·3
1952	...	...	...	14·7	1951-1955	...	...	15·4

STILLBIRTHS

(per 1,000 total births)

1957	...	...	...	14·3	1901-1910	...	...	—
1956	...	...	...	51·5	1911-1920	...	...	—
1955	...	...	...	40·0	1921-1930	...	...	—
1954	...	...	...	21·9	1931-1940	...	...	39·1
1953	...	...	...	6·2	1941-1950	...	...	33·2
1952	...	...	...	14·8	1951-1955	...	...	17·8

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

(per 1,000 total births)

1957	...	...	...	50·0	1901-1910	...	...	67·8
1956	...	...	...	44·1	1911-1920	...	...	88·6
1955	...	...	...	56·0	1921-1930	...	...	72·1
1954	...	...	...	29·2	1931-1940	...	...	49·3
1953	...	...	...	49·4	1941-1950	...	...	71·6
1952	...	...	...	51·9	1951-1955	...	...	49·2

INFANTILE MORTALITY

(per 1,000 live births)

1957	...	...	...	29·0	1901-1910	...	...	134·7
1956	...	...	...	31·0	1911-1920	...	...	100·4
1955	...	...	...	33·3	1921-1930	...	...	82·6
1954	...	...	...	29·9	1931-1940	...	...	59·0
1953	...	...	...	37·3	1941-1950	...	...	43·3
1952	...	...	...	30·1	1951-1955	...	...	38·8

NEONATAL MORTALITY

(deaths in first month per 1,000 live births)

1957	...	...	...	29·0	1901-1910	...	...	24·5
1956	...	...	...	7·8	1911-1920	...	...	25·5
1955	...	...	...	25·0	1921-1930	...	...	22·3
1954	...	...	...	29·9	1931-1940	...	...	26·6
1953	...	...	...	31·1	1941-1950	...	...	19·8
1952	...	...	...	22·6	1951-1955	...	...	25·5

Birth and Death Rates for Six Years and Mean Rates for Decennial Periods

MATERNAL MORTALITY

(per 1,000 total births)

1957	...	...	...	0	1901-1910	...	...	5.33
1956	...	...	...	0	1911-1920	...	...	4.74
1955	...	...	...	0	1921-1930	...	...	3.92
1954	...	...	...	0	1931-1940	...	...	4.54
1953	...	...	...	0	1941-1950	...	...	1.17
1952	...	...	...	0	1951-1955	...	...	1.26

TOTAL DEATH RATE

(per 1,000 population)

1957	...	...	...	8.3	1901-1910	...	...	15.7
1956	...	...	...	8.3	1911-1920	...	...	14.7
1955	...	...	...	9.7	1921-1930	...	...	12.1
1954	...	...	...	10.7	1931-1940	...	...	11.5
1953	...	...	...	10.1	1941-1950	...	...	11.3
1952	...	...	...	9.3	1951-1955	...	...	10.4

DISEASES OF HEART AND CIRCULATION

1957	...	...	...	3.93	1901-1910	...	...	1.71
1956	...	...	...	3.28	1911-1920	...	...	1.03
1955	...	...	...	2.63	1921-1930	...	...	2.22
1954	...	...	...	4.04	1931-1940	...	...	3.73
1953	...	...	...	3.39	1941-1950	...	...	3.54
1952	...	...	...	3.64	1951-1955	...	...	3.63

VASCULAR DISEASES OF CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM

1957	...	...	...	0.66	1901-1910	...	...	—
1956	...	...	...	0.76	1911-1920	...	...	—
1955	...	...	...	1.53	1921-1930	...	...	0.79
1954	...	...	...	0.66	1931-1940	...	...	0.76
1953	...	...	...	0.44	1941-1950	...	...	0.97
1952	...	...	...	1.10	1951-1955	...	...	0.94

CANCER

1957	...	...	...	1.97	1901-1910	...	...	0.88
1956	...	...	...	1.86	1911-1920	...	...	1.04
1955	...	...	...	1.75	1921-1930	...	...	1.37
1954	...	...	...	1.42	1931-1940	...	...	1.28
1953	...	...	...	2.08	1941-1950	...	...	1.70
1952	...	...	...	1.76	1951-1955	...	...	1.77

**Birth and Death Rates for Six Years
and Mean Rates for Decennial Periods**

RESPIRATORY DISEASES

1957	...	...	...	0.55	1901-1910	...	...	2.48
1956	...	...	...	0.76	1911-1920	...	...	1.88
1955	...	...	...	1.42	1921-1930	...	...	1.45
1954	...	...	...	1.09	1931-1940	...	...	0.77
1953	...	...	...	1.42	1941-1950	...	...	0.95
1952	...	...	...	0.66	1951-1955	...	...	1.22

INFECTIVE AND PARASITIC DISEASES

1957	...	...	...	0	1901-1910	...	...	1.22
1956	...	...	...	0	1911-1920	...	...	1.26
1955	...	...	...	0.11	1921-1930	...	...	0.57
1954	...	...	...	0	1931-1940	...	...	0.23
1953	...	...	...	0	1941-1950	...	...	0.15
1952	...	...	...	0.22	1951-1955	...	...	0.09

RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS

1957	...	...	...	0	1901-1910	...	...	0.73
1956	...	...	...	0	1911-1920	...	...	0.67
1955	...	...	...	0	1921-1930	...	...	0.61
1954	...	...	...	0.11	1931-1940	...	...	0.33
1953	...	...	...	0	1941-1950	...	...	0.37
1952	...	...	...	0.22	1951-1955	...	...	0.18

NON-RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS

1957	...	...	...	0	1901-1910	...	...	0.70
1956	...	...	...	0	1911-1920	...	...	0.30
1955	...	...	...	0	1921-1930	...	...	0.29
1954	...	...	...	0	1931-1940	...	...	0.13
1953	...	...	...	0.11	1941-1950	...	...	0.09
1952	...	...	...	0	1951-1955	...	...	0.02

CAUSES OF DEATH

1957

					Male.	Female.	Total.
Influenza	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	...	...	...	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (other forms)	...	...	...	0	0	0	0
Malignant Neoplasms	...	...	...	9	9	18	
Diabetes	...	...	...	0	0	0	0
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	1	5	6		
Heart Diseases	...	...	...	18	15	33	
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	...	1	2	3		
Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	1	3	
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	0	1	1		
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	1	0	1		
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	0	—	0		
Other Infective Conditions	...	...	0	0	0		
Nephritis	...	...	0	1	1		
Maternal Causes	...	...	—	0	0		
Congenital Causes	...	...	0	0	0		
Pneumonia	...	...	0	1	1		
Suicide	...	...	0	0	0		
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	2	0	2		
Other Accidents	...	...	1	0	1		
All Other Causes	...	...	3	3	6		
			—	—	—		
Totals	...	...	38	38	76		

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases during 1957

					Male.	Female.	Total.
Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Total cases on the Register:							
Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	16	36*	52
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	5	3†	8

* Includes 13 cases in a residential institution in the District.

† Includes 2 cases in a residential institution in the District.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

A woman, aged 46 years, found to be unable to look after herself, was admitted and detained in St. John's Hospital.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Miniature Radiography Unit did not visit the District during 1957.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

(Extract from separate report to the Director of Statistics of the Ministry of Labour on Form 572, 1957)

Premises.	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Owners Prosecuted
Factories with Mechanical Power	3	1	0	0
„ without Mechanical Power	22	9	0	0
Workplaces	5	72	0	0
	30	82	0	0

Defects

Particulars.	Defects Found	Defects Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions instituted
Want of Cleanliness	0	0	0	0
Inadequate Ventilation	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences insufficient or defective	2	2	1	1
Other Offences	0	0	1	1
	2	2	2	2

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Causes of Death in Age Groups

	Under 1 week.	1 to 2 weeks.	2 to 3 weeks.	2 to 4 weeks.	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total.
Birth Injury	...	1							1
Lung Abscess	...		1						1
Prematurity	...	1							1
Hæmolytic Disease..	1								1
Total ...	2	1	1						4

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during 1957

		No. of cases notified								
		According to Age								
		At all ages	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	Over 64	Deaths
Smallpox	...	...	...				
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	...	...	...				
Erysipelas	...	...	...				
Scarlet Fever	...	...	2	1	1					
Typhus Fever	...	...						
Enteric Fevers	...	...						
Relapsing and Continued Fevers	...	...						
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	1							
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...									
Acute Post - Infective Encephalitis	...	...						
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...									
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...									
Other forms of Tuberculosis										
Measles	...	...	175	36	55	84				
Primary Pneumonia	...		5							
Influenzal Pneumonia	...		1							
Whooping Cough	...	...	12	1	6	5				
Dysentery	...	...						
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	1							
Totals ...	...	198	37	62	90	1	4	1	3	

WEST RIDING COUNTY DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN GOOLE R.D., 1957

The Public Health Nursing Staff in this Division no longer works according to County District boundaries. Most of the figures in the following summaries refer to Goole R.D., but in certain cases the figures are those for the Rural District and Goole Borough combined, or for Division No. 10 as a whole.

1. BIRTHS:

Total notified	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	65

2. PREMATURE BABIES—Babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lb. or less at birth:

(i) Born at home	...	...	...	3	Stillborn	0
(ii) Born in hospital	...	...	...	3	„	0
				—		—	
	Total	6	„	0

3. HEALTH VISITING (for Division No. 10 as a whole):

	First Visits.	Other Visits.	Total.
Expectant Mothers	...	346	378
Children under 1 year	...	766	5946
Children between 1 and 5	...	—	6761
Other cases	...	—	2698
Ineffective visits	...	—	838
	—	—	—
Total	...	1112	16621
			17733

4. CHILD WELFARE CLINICS:

(a) Total number of children under 5 years of age who first attended the Clinics during the year and who at the date of their first attendance were:—

Under 1 year 95

(b) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended the Clinics during the year and who at the end of the year were:—

(i) Under 1 year 58
(ii) Over 1 year 115

Number of sessions held:—

SNAITH	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Total attendance	...	...	...	...	...	...	987
Average per session	...	...	...	...	...	...	19.9
SWINEFLEET	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Total attendance	...	...	...	...	...	...	544
Average per session	...	...	...	...	...	...	11.1

Of the above, 21 Selby Rural children made 106 visits to Goole Rural Clinics and 50 Goole Rural children made 306 visits to Goole Borough Clinics.

5. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE:

Attendances at School Clinic	...	...	...	...	238
Number attending Pædiatric Consultant	...	...	...	...	7
Number attending County Oculist	...	...	...	...	134
Number prescribed Spectacles	...	...	...	...	55
Number attending Speech Therapy	...	...	...	...	2
Number inspected in School by School M.O.	...	...	...	...	422
Number inspected in School by School Nurse	...	...	...	...	3286
Number of Verminous Heads	...	...	...	...	39
Tests for Mental Defect, primary	...	...	...	...	6
Re-examinations	...	...	...	...	6
Reported to M.D. Authority as ineducable	...	...	...	...	2
Recommended for Residential Schools	...	...	...	...	3
Attending Residential Schools	...	...	...	...	6
Reported to M.D. Authority for supervision	...	...	...	...	1

The following defects were found at Medical Inspections:

			Requiring treatment.	For obser- vation.
Verminous heads	39 0
Skin	4 1
Vision	11 21
Other eye conditions	1 4
Hearing	0 0
Other ear defects	6 0
Nose and throat	2 9
Speech	5 3
Cervical glands	1 4
Heart and circulation	1 3
Lungs	0 7
Developmental	1 2
Orthopædic	8 3
Nervous system	3 5
Psychological	1 5
Other conditions	0 0

SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICE (Division No. 10 as a whole)

Number inspected	...	...	...	...	...	5217
Requiring treatment	...	...	...	...	...	3376
Offered treatment	...	...	...	...	...	2074
Treated	...	...	...	...	...	1566

6. MATERNITY SERVICES:

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC: Snaith, Swinefleet.

Number of patients attending 49 40

Total number of attendances 177 95

Number of sessions held 25 25

Average attendance per session 7 3.8

Included in the above are 10 expectant mothers from Selby Rural District, who made 33 visits to the Snaith Clinic. In addition, 20 expectant mothers made 80 attendances at the Goole Ante-Natal Clinic.

MOTHERS CONFINED IN HOSPITAL:

Goole Maternity Home 32

Leeds Hospitals 12

Wakefield Hospitals 12

Scunthorpe Hospitals 4

Doncaster 1

Total 61

COUNTY MIDWIVES:

There were 80 domiciliary confinements in the Rural District during 1957.

The following summary of the work of the County Midwives is for Division No. 10 as a whole:—

Number of cases 377

Number of visits 13456

Gas and air analgesia 252

Number of Midwives 8

7. HOME NURSING (Division No. 10 as a whole):—

Number of cases 436

Number of visits 14087

8. HOME HELPS:

Home Helps were employed for 48,139 hours attending cases in the Division.

They attended the following cases in Goole R.D.:—

Lying-in	8	Illness	4
Expectant mothers		Aged illness ...	10

9. IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA—during 1957:

Children under 5 years 87

Children over 5 years 18

Total 105

Booster Doses 62

Total 167

Total number of children under 15 years of age who have been immunised up to the 31st December, 1957:—

Age—Years	0—1	1—4	5—9	10—14	Total under 15
Number	68	315	525	659	1567
Percentage	58		81		72.6

10. IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH:

					During 1957.	Up to Dec. 1957
6 months to 1 year	...	...	...	...	—	54
Under 6 months	...	...	...	...	54	
1—2 years	...	...	...	...	10	
2—3 years	...	...	...	...	7	
3—4 years	...	...	...	...	14	
					—	—
					85	270

11. B.C.G. VACCINATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN (13 years of age):

Number of acceptances in 1957	...	...	37	(67.2%)
Pre-Vaccination Tuberculin Tests	...	...	34	(92.8%)
Positive (not requiring vaccination)	...	...	4	(11.7%)
Negative (requiring vaccination)	...	...	30	(88.3%)
			—	
Number vaccinated with B.C.G.	...	...	30	
Number re-tested after 12 months	...	...	14	

12. VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS:

Children registered to 31st December, 1957	...	...	835
Vaccinations completed	...	...	318

13. MENTAL HEALTH:

(a) Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913—1938.

The number of mentally defective persons under supervision at the end of 1957 was as follows:—

		Male.	Female.	Total.
On Licence from Institutions	0	0
Under Guardianship	0	0
Under Statutory Supervision	13	11
Under Voluntary Supervision	0	2
				24
				2

(b) Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890—1930.

Admission to Mental Hospitals by the Duly Authorised Officer during 1957 were as follows:—

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Voluntary Patients	...	...	7	9
By Temporary Order	...	...	2	4
By "Three-Day" Order	...	...	1	0
By Summary Reception Order	...	1	2	3

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION No. 10

The County Districts forming Division No. 10 are:—

Goole Borough	Selby Urban
Goole Rural	Selby Rural
Area of the Division (in acres)	... ... ... 76,692
Population (estimated mid-1957)	... ... ... 45,410

DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE & STAFF:

6/7, Belgravia, Goole. Telephone Goole 936/7

Divisional Medical Officer & Divisional School Medical Officer:

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Assistant County Medical Officers and School Medical Officers:

EILEEN M. R. BELL-SYER, M.B., B.S.;
MURIEL J. LOWE, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H.

School Dental Officers:

P. F. A. ELTOME, L.D.S. G. O. WOOD, L.D.S.
(Divisions 10 & 9).

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

Mrs. B. BEAL, Miss D. M. BUTLER, Miss J. DAVIS,
Mrs. M. DODSON, Mrs. M. HARGREAVES, Mrs. M. KELLY,
Mrs. L. PRATT, Miss A. RIDSDALE.

Home Nurses:

Miss P. K. AGAR, Mrs. A. BLACKBURN, Mrs. S. CLAYBOURN,
Mrs. W. E. DUFFIN, Mrs. L. A. POLLARD,
Miss M. WHITTAKER.

Domiciliary Midwives:

Mrs. E. BALLANCE, Miss I. CAMPBELL, Mrs. M. COLLIER,
Miss M. GILHOME, Mrs. M. E. HORNSHAW, Mrs. L.
KITCHEN, Miss J. STEPHENSON, Miss A. TOLSON,
Miss E. WHITLEY.

Mental Health:

Mrs. M. MYERS, Social Worker (Divisions 10 & 12);
Mrs. D. H. MILLINGTON, Home Teacher (Division 10);
Mrs. A. ALVEY, Home Teacher (Division 10).

Physiotherapy: Miss E. ALDERSON (part-time).
Speech Therapy: Miss K. WADE (Divisions 10, 11 & 12).

Duly Authorised Officer: Mr. T. G. FOSTER.

Clerical:

Senior Clerk: Mr. R. TOWELL;
Deputy Senior Clerk: Mr. H. DODSON.
Miss S. L. BRAMHAM, Mrs. B. BUCKLE, Miss F. A.
CAMPBELL, Mr. G. N. NOWILL, Miss J. E. SMAJE,
Miss M. E. WORMALD.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1957

To the Chairman and Members of the Goole Rural District Council

MR. CHAIRMAN, GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting this Annual Report on my work as Public Health Inspector for the year 1957. This work forms only part of my multifarious duties, but whilst I derive a great deal of satisfaction in seeing houses built to my design or roads improved as a result of my efforts, I nevertheless regard the "silent service" of public health work as one of my most important jobs. It has long been the fashion in some quarters to sneer at the Surveyor / Public Health Inspector who is found in the smaller urban or rural district. He is dubbed "Jack of all Trades" with its implication and is labelled as inefficient if he has not the time to produce lengthy committee reports on every subject under the sun or keep statistics, graphs, charts and tables showing things which no one wants to know. The fact that tables showing numbers of inspections, etc., have not been included in this report does not mean that nothing has been done, but rather that I regard such things as often giving a false picture. All statistics are always available to the Council or to any member who wishes to see them.

Yours faithfully,

J. ALLEN POTTS,

Public Health Inspector.

HOUSING

The year marked the slowing-down of the Council's housing programme, and only 8 Bungalows were built. The number of applications for single-bedroom bungalows shows that there is a great demand for the smaller type of house, both from old people and those with no family. As the number of old people is on the increase, the need for bungalows will grow in all the villages, and it is likely that they will be a main feature of the Council's housing developments for some years to come.

The number of grants for improvement to houses again increased during the year, and 22 grants were made for provision of baths and other improvements. Nearly all the grants were made to owner-occupiers, and it appears that the grants are not attractive enough to most property owners, whose aim is to make a profit by selling with vacant possession. Those who cannot buy a house or get a Council house have little hope of enjoying modern amenities in their home. This is a national problem and one cannot see the solution, but public opinion is bound to produce some answer to it in the years to come.

The general standard of housing in some parts of the area, notably Swinefleet, is very low and many houses are not only short of modern amenities, but in poor structural condition. This is due to lack of adequate foundations, the condition having been aggravated in riverside areas by years of recurring floods. Probably the greatest contribution to the comfort and safety of people living in these areas has been the bank improvement works undertaken by the River Board. The structural damage has in many cases, however, gone beyond repair, and the only course is to demolish and rebuild.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The first efforts to obtain improvement of the sewerage systems in the area began to bear fruit during the year with Ministry sanction to proceed with the Hook sewerage scheme. 1958 should see this scheme practically completed, to be followed, it is hoped, by all the other villages in the area.

Sewerage schemes are expensive projects, and the capital outlay is only part of the cost. It would be folly to install many thousands of pounds worth of machinery and expect it to maintain itself. The day is not far off when a small mobile maintenance team for pumps and machinery will be necessary.

During the year the Aire outfall to the Rawcliffe sewerage system was completely reconstructed. The new outfall will form part of the new system when Rawcliffe is re-sewered.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

One of the collection vehicles was replaced during the year by a larger diesel lorry. The increase in capacity was made necessary by the growing amount of refuse handled and by the closing of the Snaith tip, thus making a longer haul to point of disposal. The only tip available in the western half of the district is now at Rawcliffe. Suitable land for tipping refuse is very hard to find in our flat countryside, and it is ironic that acres of derelict quarry at Pollington are barred to us due to proximity of the Goole Borough Council's water bore.

The difficulties in collecting pail closets together with ordinary house refuse in the same vehicle continue as in previous years. Spillage, smell and rapid deterioration of vehicle bodies are inevitable. Various ideas in using separate compartments in the lorry have had to be abandoned due to emptying difficulties. The only alternative apart from running two distinct collections appears to be the use of a tank-trailer for pail closets, and this will be tried in the forthcoming year.

WATER SUPPLY

No works of note were carried out during the year. It now appears inevitable that the Council's undertaking will be handed over to a Joint Water Board covering a large area. This is a bitter blow to an Authority which has spent a great deal of money in bringing water to all parts of a scattered area. We stand to gain nothing and can only take the philanthropic view that our less fortunate fellow districts will benefit from our sacrifices. The less philanthropically-minded might be tempted to remark that no one appears anxious to help spread the load of providing sewerage facilities to our villages !

FOOD INSPECTION

The two slaughterhouses which operate in the area continue to deal in good quality meat and the amount of condemned meat is very small. 72 beasts were killed during the year, only 2 were affected with localised tuberculosis, and 9 with other diseases or abnormal conditions (mostly distomatosis). 18 pigs were killed, all being free from disease. 32 sheep killed were all healthy, apart from a few cases of strongyli infestation of the lungs—a very common parasitic condition which does not affect the carcase meat.

